NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg



Contact: Erin Rath/Jeff Turcotte

United States Senator for New Hampshire 393 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 202-224-3324 www.senate.gov/~gregg/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, March 20, 2003

GREGG STRONGLY ENDORSES SENATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING U.S. TROOPS, PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON– U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today signaled his strong support for American men and women serving in the Armed Forces by voting for a Senate Resolution, which passed unanimously tonight.

Specifically, this resolution states that the Senate commends and supports the efforts and leadership of the President, as Commander in Chief, in the conflict against Iraq; commends and expresses the gratitude of the country to all members of the U.S. Armed Forces and the civilian employees supporting their efforts; commends and expresses the support and gratitude of the country to the family members of service people; expresses condolence for the families that have lost loved ones over the course of conflict with Iraq; and expresses gratitude to British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his government, as well as other allied nations, for their courageous and steadfast support and assistance.

Senator Gregg commented, "Our military is made up of the finest men and women from across the United States. These soldiers are putting their lives on the line to defend the freedoms that America is built upon. This is a time for us to put aside our ideological battles and support them as they defend the security of every citizen of the United States. They deserve our respect, and I am honored to send my thoughts and prayers to them and their families as they defend us in the Middle East.

"Our American service people are at risk, and our hearts go out to them. Our support and prayers are with them. They are extraordinary people who defend this nation, our servicemen and women, and we admire them and thank them for what they do. I wish them the best during this very difficult period.

"The President has made the decision, and it is in my opinion the correct decision, to go into Iraq and disarm Saddam Hussein, whose weapons of mass destruction represent a clear threat, not only to his neighbors but to us, if they fall into the hands of terrorists aiming to kill Americans here in the United States. It represents the potential for thousands of Americans dying. We cannot take that risk. We cannot wait for the smoking gun to occur because the smoking gun might be a nuclear bomb or biological weapon of immense proportions. So this action by the President and our country is something that has to proceed and we wish our service people Godspeed during this very difficult time."